

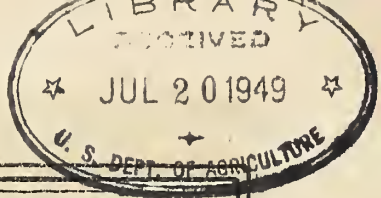
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THE FOUNDATION

The scriptures are authority for the truth that a house builded upon the sands cannot stand. No matter how careful its architecture or painstaking its construction, if its foundation is wobbly, it will one day become a monument to the folly of its builder.

The foundation of our tree-planting work is proper site selection, from the standpoint both of growth and influence. Given a fortunate combination of climatic conditions, a tree may be established - for a time - on a slate roof. It has happened in various places in the world, but a prudent forester would nevertheless not stake his reputation upon an attempt to produce a forest on a slate roof. Many a pile of worthless sand dunes will grow shelterbelts wonderfully well, but if we plant them there we must expect to face the very pertinent inquiry, "what are you trying to protect?"

That we have in the past planted some shelterbelts on doubtful soils and in poor locations, and others on lands whose value for agricultural purposes does not justify the expense, must be admitted. During each of our previous seasons conditions have been such that we were forced to hold up land examination until the eleventh hour, with the result that the work has had to be done too hastily and by too few trained men.

Conditions in that respect are better this year. While the program is considerably larger, we have much more time, more experience, and less "selling" to do. If there is anything in mathematics, that should mean that we will have fewer errors in site selection.

It seems to me that in examining any proposed planting site we should subject it to the test of at least three fundamental questions, to-wit: Will the trees grow? Is the land worth it? Is the site properly located? If the answer to any of them is not a clear-cut "yes," we are merely storing up trouble for the future, to say nothing of wasting our money and our opportunity for service. In fact, it may go even beyond that. To attempt through tree planting to perpetuate farming on land that is, and always will be submarginal for that purpose, is doubtless a distinct disservice.

- E.L.Perry, R.O.

TRADING OUR BIRTHRIGHT

For the past three generations, the American people seem to have been possessed of a mad, impetuous desire to exchange these vast natural and mineral resources for monetary gain as rapidly as possible regardless of the consequences to future generations. We have not only devastated our forests, crowded our woodlands from the landscape to accommodate more acres for cultivation, plowed up and mined our grasslands, and so overgrazed the remaining timberlands and native pastures that they can no longer rehabilitate themselves, but we are now rapidly losing the very soils which support all vegetative life. As has often been pointed out, all personal and National wealth comes from the soil. When the soils are gone a people and a nation are bankrupt. For the past fifty years we have not been creating wealth, but have been merely exchanging nature's vast bounties for a wealth which we only grasped for a moment. We, like the Esau of old, have been trading our birthright for a mess of pottage.

- From speech by M. B. Jenkins, U. of Nebr.,
before American Legion Convention at
Scottsbluff, Nebraska.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE INSPECTS SHELTERBELT PLANTINGS

Mr. Harry Brown, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, and Mr. R. W. MacKee, connected with the North Central Region of the AAA, inspected shelterbelt plantings in northern Lincoln County last Friday afternoon.

Mr. Brown and Mr. MacKee, who had attended and spoken at the AAA picnic at North Platte, were met there by Mr. Davis and Mr. Joris, local forest officers. They were first taken to the Forest Service Nursery, near North Platte, where over four million trees are being grown for shelterbelt planting during the coming year. A tour was then made through the plantings in northern Lincoln County including belts on the farms of George Dirksen, L. M. Bayne, D. Mason Howard, Nicholas Walz, J. A. Watson and Fred Linderman. Both expressed deep interest in the program and were gratified to note the high survival per cent in these dry-land plantings. An estimate by the Forest Service at this time indicates a survival of over 80 per cent, in spite of the adverse weather conditions from which this part of the country has suffered this summer. Due to lack of time it was not possible to show Mr. Brown and Mr. MacKee the plantings in either Custer County or Logan County.

- Lawrence F. Joris, Nebr.

WAX EMULSION EXPERIMENT

Recently a new product has come on the market that may have far-reaching possibilities for foresters engaged in tree-planting activities and particularly in the Plains Region where the mortality in new plantings is often very high due to desiccation of the seedlings during the period when they are establishing themselves in their new environment.

This new product is a wax emulsion which may be applied to the trees cold either by spraying or dipping. The application is made before the trees leave the nursery. It forms a coating over the seedlings which cuts off a high percentage of the moisture lost through transpiration, as well as protecting the trees to some extent from sand blasting and sun scald.

Three States, North Dakota, Kansas, and Oklahoma, are cooperating on an extensive administrative study that has been designed to determine whether the

benefits to be obtained from treating the seedlings in this manner are sufficient to warrant the establishment of this treatment as a standard procedure on all nursery stock to be planted on this Project.

Results of this study will be watched with considerable interest by all who are interested in furthering the progress of tree planting in this region.

- H. E. Engstrom, R.O.

SEEING IS BELIEVING!

I recently received the following letter, addressed to "Director, Antelope Shelterbelt Project," from a Mrs. Becker of LeMars, Iowa:

"Last week I made a trip to South Dakota returning through Nebraska by way of O'Neill, Page, Orchard, and Brunswick and I noticed many plantings of trees and upon inquiry was told that this was done under the shelterbelt project of which you were the director.

"I own 160 acres four miles south of Brunswick, there is a planting adjoining my land (which I think is owned by Mr. McPhaul), and I am interested in knowing about this project and the details as I would like to have a planting on my land.

"Will you please write me explaining the number of acres planted, the width, length, etc., on a quarter section."

Since Mrs. Becker admits that she made the mistake of visiting South Dakota, I suppose Al Ford will contend that the strips which she saw must have been those supercolossal South Dakota plantings, but anyway it looks like this was a very successful "show-me" trip, even if it was self-conducted.

- E. Garth Champagne, Nebr.

COMMENTS ON THE FLAGG POSTER

The James Montgomery Flagg poster on fire prevention has been well distributed throughout Comanche and Clark Counties. People are much impressed by these posters, and favorable comments have been made as evidenced by the following statements from a few of the leading men of Comanche and Clark Counties.

Mr. Ray, Editor of Clark County Clipper says, "We are interested in all matters that affect the public and will put this poster where everyone can see it."

Mr. Broadie, Postmaster of Ashland, says, "This ought to be effective and make the folks more aware of fire danger."

Mr. Zimmerman of the Zimmerman Hardware of Ashland says, "I've seen burned-over land in the West and sure will post this where everyone can see it."

Mr. Brown of Wilmore Drug Company says, "A forest fire is terrible. I saw a place in Colorado where a fire had burned. People are too careless about fires."

Manager of Wilmore Grain Company says, "That is the truth."

Ed Schrock, Comanche County Engineer says, "A very nice picture. The painter knew his business."

- Alva Swarner, Kans.

THE FORESTER

The forester is an amateur woodsman with a college education.

There are two classes of foresters. One class believes in keeping abreast of those broad dynamic movements of the present day that challenge the best efforts of the nation's thinkers. The other class fights fire, builds truck trails, plants trees, and wears old clothes.

Some foresters have offices, some live in Washington, and some work in the woods. Lots of foresters spend practically their entire lives in God's great out-of-doors. They love to hunt and fish. They would, too, if they only had time.

It used to be said that a forester's best friends were his horse and his ax. Today a forester has no need for a horse, and he might cut himself with an ax. Years ago most every forester wore a big Stetson hat and carried a gun on his hip and a flask in his pocket. Nowadays big Stetson hats are only worn in the movies, and you hardly ever see a forester carrying a gun.

An interesting thing about a forester's life is that he meets all kinds of people from hobos to multi-millionaires. It is not uncommon for a forester to have the privilege of personally doing favors for a millionaire tourist. However, there is no record of a millionaire tourist ever doing a favor for a forester. But even if they don't make much money, it's nice, steady work and they have lots of fun.

Another satisfactory thing about a forester's career is that he is his own master, absolutely independent and answerable to no one for his professional conduct. That is, except to his wife, ladies' garden clubs, sportsmen's associations, nature lovers, newspaper editors, and local politicians.

Forestry is a very pleasant profession because it is easy to get ahead. Many foresters graduate from college with only a few debts and immediately get a job and a wife. In about ten years' time, in addition to the same job and the same wife, they have more debts and five kids. That's why foresters are so happy.

- Park Service Bulletin, U.S.D.I.

NEBRASKA PUTS ON EXHIBIT AT STATE FAIR

Showing hundreds of persons the advantages of field protection provided by shelterbelts may be a big job, but that is what Nebraska is doing daily with a shelterbelt exhibit at the State Fair.

With a few loads of soil, a number of miniature farm buildings, two miniature windmills, potted trees, paint and various other articles, Mr. Ferris has assembled two farms picturing in striking detail the differences between a farm having protective shelterbelts and a farm of wind-swept fields with no tree protection.

A random count made from 10:30 to 11:40 the second day of the Fair showed that over 400 visitors were attracted to our farms. "The Government sure has the right idea on this tree planting," is typical of remarks picked up as the visitors viewed each detail of the exhibit. Perhaps the most significant

indication of public interest was the fact that the average visitor spent more time in examining the exhibit than was the case with most other shows in the building.

We have been invited to use the same space again next year, and with a little more time for preparation, we feel sure that we can put on an even better show.

- L. S. Matthew, Nebr.

THEY MUST BE CULTIVATED

After returning to Lincoln from a short cultivation inspection trip through North and South Dakota, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, I feel like the little boy who "had been places and seen things," and brother! the things I have seen! Much that was good and of course some that was bad. One thing about cultivation I am certain of is that we are making progress, though some of the field men think it is a painful procedure.

We visited one district in which there were 33 miles of 1937 plantings which had been entirely cared for, even the hand hoeing, by the farm operators, and say what you will, that's progress. How was it done? Well, mostly because the men in charge of that district had the ability to really sell shelterbelts to these farmers, and note please that selling in this case means far more than getting him to sign the cooperative agreement and furnish fencing material. You all know what the rooster said to the hens in his flock when he showed them the ostrich egg.

In contrast, one other field man sent a tractor crew out to cultivate a strip and later in the day went out to see how they were getting along. Upon arriving at the strip he couldn't see the tractor and started down through the weeds looking for it, and finally succeeded when he stumbled over the front of the machine. I don't know whether to call that a condition or a nightmare. Fortunately for our peace of mind, such happenings are few and have generally come about through circumstances beyond our immediate control, but anyhow they leave a dark-brown taste.

Just how to minimize situations of this latter sort is a long story, somewhat like the fabled street with many turnings, but there are some salient facts which we have learned through experience, most of which are prominent facts about all cultivation. If I were asked to prepare a slogan to be followed without reservations in guiding cultivation operations, it would consist of only two words -- Timeliness - Thoroughness.

- Henry L. Lobenstein, R.O.

SHELTERBELTS SAVE CORN

A good many farmers in the shelterbelt district through Kansas were very forcefully reminded of their need for shelterbelt protection by just three days of hot winds this summer. Mr. Robert Turner, a farmer in Stafford County, said at one of the sign-up meetings that where his corn was protected by trees it would make 20 bushel to the acre, and where there was no protection it would not be worth shucking, due to those three days of hot winds which burned the tassels. Mr. Turner signed up for a mile of shelterbelt. Other farmers have made the remark that the hot winds came at just the right time to do considerable damage to the corn. It is our job now to show these people how we can give them permanent protection from such losses in the future.

- Glenn W. Spring, Kansas

FOREST SERVICE FUNNIES?

An editor and his assistants spent several hours preparing an editorial for the Average Town Press. The editorial was important and there were many angles to consider. The editorial was printed. What happened? Nothing happened. At least there was no display from the public, no letters, no telegrams, no phone calls.

Next week the editor and his assistants pondered over the matter of finances of the Average Town Press. Why not cut out one of the comic strips? Nobody reads "The Bridge Kibitzer" any more. It's old now and most people would never miss it. All agreed in the economy measure and the comic strip, "The Bridge Kibitzer" was eliminated. What happened? Nothing, until the paper was published. Then a flood of calls followed by hundreds of letters came in, "my favorite comic strip," "the only good one," "the most human," "the cartoonist must be a bridge player, etc., etc.," "please reconsider and if you don't, cancel my subscription, etc., etc." Ask yourself, check on your friends, the fellow that does not read the funnies is rare indeed. Why not capitalize on this trait of human nature?

The idea would be for the Forest Service to draw the comic strips, have the mats prepared and send them free to various newspapers in the Prairie States Forestry Project for publication. Would the publishers print them? Yes, if the strips were interesting. They would not necessarily have to be comic. Various phases of conservation, wildlife, tree planting, and many other subjects could be portrayed daily, weekly, or monthly. To develop a character for a strip and put him through a series of interesting events means a lot of gathering of original ideas for the cartoonist, but it is one effective way of reaching a lot of people with a message.

- Harold G. Peterson, R.O.

ADVANCES EUCALYPTUS AS SHELTERBELT TREE

The following letter, addressed to our office, is from a 77-year-old tree enthusiast. Doubtless his silvics are a bit twisted, but anyway his heart is in the right place.

"Am sending you printed article taken from the Minneapolis Evening Journal - very interesting to me and I think it will be to you when you read this letter. I claim that the famous eucalyptus tree of California which grows five to six times as fast as any other tree in the United States or anywhere else, is the most wonderful tree in this country. Will at six or seven years of age produce telegraph poles, railway ties, cordwood, and saw timber for building and all kinds of furniture. It is as hard as hickory or walnut.

"Now I claim this tree can be crossed with one of our northern hardwood trees such as Norway pine or native pines. It grows fine on sandy soil.

"The eucalyptus tree which is native in Tasmania and Australia, was imported and planted in Los Angeles about 55 years ago by Alfred Whitworth. It can't stand frost or cold weather so would have to be crossed with one of our native hardwoods to get a tree that will grow in our northern climate. Scientific Sharps in our universities could experiment along the lines indicated and could get a rapid-growing tree that would stand both heat and cold; then we could make a success of the shelterbelt in 15 years. We would have a rapid-growing tree from Texas to the Canadian line."

- K. W. Taylor, N. Dak.

USE OF FORMALDEHYDE IN DAMPING-OFF CONTROL

Samuel A. Byars, Nurseryman at Mangum, Oklahoma, has had considerable success with the use of formaldehyde in the treatment of post emergence damping off. The following is taken from a report by Byars to Ernest Wright, Project Pathologist, in response to an inquiry from Mr. Wright:

"I have used formaldehyde to control damping-off fungus for several years. It gives far better results than any other fungicides I have ever used. I actually get better results with the formaldehyde than I do with Bordeaux, sulphur, or any of the mercuric compounds.

"The formaldehyde treatment is very simple to use and is economical. Under greenhouse conditions or on a very hot day, use 20 drops to the gallon of water. Early in the morning or late in the afternoon or on a cool day, I use 30 drops of the formaldehyde to the gallon of water. If damping-off is severe, apply to plants with sprinkler can. If it is mild or just beginning, use a pressure sprayer. Hold sprayer nozzle down low so as to be sure that the mist gets on the stems of the seedlings. In severe cases of damping-off I have used the treatment stronger than 30 drops to the gallon of water, depending on the atmospheric conditions and the temperature, without harmful results to the plants.

"In the above paragraph I am referring to the liquid formaldehyde and the treatment is for post-emergence damping off. At the time I came into the Forest Service I was carrying on experiments with the formaldehyde dust for pre-emergence damping-off, but I have done nothing on it since.

"Post-emergence damping-off was widespread here at the Mangum Nursery and about as bad as I ever saw, and I completely brought the 40 acres under control with one-half gallon of formaldehyde. At this time I have excellent stands of all species with the exception of where the hail hit a few acres after it was too late to replant."

Mr. Wright was very favorably impressed with Byars' experiment, as evidenced by the following letter:

"Thank you for your letter of July 4 in regard to the use of formaldehyde for the control of post-emergence damping-off. I have taken the liberty to send a copy of your letter to Dr. Carl Hartley at Washington so that he may have some of his men try it out under Eastern conditions. I have also stated in the letter that if the treatment proves successful you should receive full credit for the work you have done."

- John R. Nelson, Okla.

TEXAS BUSINESS MEN RALLY TO SUPPORT OF PROGRAM

McLean, Texas is bidding fair to have a real concentrated shelterbelt planting area surrounding this wide-awake town.

Within a week from the time the local newspaper was contacted every business man in town volunteered his services and asked for application forms to fill out for himself or to supply others who have land suitable for planting trees. Within the period of one week, more than twenty miles were signed up for shelterbelt strips.

The interest became so great that a special meeting was called and a petition was circulated and signed by approximately fifty business men and farmers of the area. This document also issues an invitation to the Forest Service to move the district office to McLean.

The interest and activity of the public-minded citizens of this vicinity prove that generally speaking both farmers and business men are intensely receptive and awake to the many advantages of the planting program. After conversing with many landowners, I find that on the whole the farmers of the Panhandle region are tree-minded.

- A. Schattenberg, Texas

NURSERY THINNING

Thinning in the nursery row is completed at the Manhattan Nursery. The following represents our thinning costs in Russian olive and osage orange:

Species	Acres	Lineal feet of row	Percent of area having over 15 trees per foot	No. ft. of one man	No. man hours	Cost per acre
Russian olive	2.3	58,953	9	807	31.7	11.55
Osage orange	3.0	70,618	4	630	37.0	12.82
Osage orange	1.2	28,000	44	134	173.0	72.33

Because of the thorns and different root system and type of root development I believe that osage orange will usually be one of the more expensive species to thin.

The thick block of osage orange represents a change in sowing schedule. More seed was planted here because a low germination was expected, based on a knife count which was evidently in error. I would like to suggest that aside from crowded stock, inability to get to light, and waste in plant food, we believe (at the present time) that we have gone a long way toward cutting our field grading costs by thinning. I hope that no one will construe this to justify a cost of \$72.33, which is prohibitive in my estimation.

- R. L. Buskirk, Kansas

TREES

I think that I shall never see along the road an unmarred tree, with bark intact, and painted white, that no car ever hit at night. For every tree that's near the road has caused some auto to be towed.

Sideswiping trees is done a lot by drivers who are plum half-shot. God gave them eyes so they might see, yet any fool can hit a tree.--

Inland Tips, with apologies to the lamented Joyce Kilmer.

From "Highways of Happiness"

CULTIVATING THE PRESS

(Extract from a paper on "Reporting Governmental Activities to the Public by Merle R. Chessman, Editor, Daily Astorian-Budget, Astoria, Oregon, presented at the Commonwealth Conference, U. of O., March 18-20, 1937)

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It is so fundamental as to be almost axiomatic that successful self-government is dependent upon an informed and enlightened electorate; and I believe that there cannot be too close cooperation between public officials and the press in the duty of providing this information. It is the business of both to work to this end. Even if they are not, as they should be, sincerely working for the welfare of their community, then intelligent selfishness would still dictate this cooperation of which I am speaking, for news is the life of a newspaper and it also has a definite relationship to the longevity of an officeholder. Misunderstanding, suspicion, and distrust are like certain vermin in that they breed in darkness; and they are among the greatest plagues of officialdom.

I have scant patience with the public official who is too busy or too dumb to take an interest in putting out the news of his office, who looks upon a reporter as a nosey snooper, and who treats him with indifference or discourtesy. This official is generally the one who comes to the editor and complains about garbled reports and about getting a rotten deal. If I were a public official and had a yen to stay on my job or to advance to a better one, I would never despise the lowly reporter. I might cuss the editor out once in a while or show my contempt for his prejudiced mind and perverse nature; but I would assiduously court and cultivate the reporter on my beat, knowing that he is human with all a human being's instincts and reactions, that it is his job to get the news out of my office, and that it is good business and good judgment on my part to make his job as easy for him as I can. I would realize that he is going to get the news whether I will it or not, that, left to his own devices, he may get it wrong and do me considerable mischief unwittingly, and that, even though he gets it right, he may not give it very sympathetic treatment if I have been rude or boorish with him. I wouldn't ignore or evade his inquiries or regard him as an intruder. I wouldn't refer him to the minute book, the journal, or the records and let him dig out a story the best he can from a mass of figures, data, and technical phraseology. I would develop a nose for news in my own office and I would have news ready and waiting for him. I would point out the significant and important points of a complicated report, I would interpret them for him, I would develop in him an understanding so that he may write an intelligent article, I would give him an interview to explain certain matters in my own words. I would make him my instrument in accounting to the public for my stewardship. I would make it a matter of daily duty to give the reporter all the news I have and the background of it, so that he may pass it on to my constituents -- realizing that, while I am benefitting him and them, I will probably be myself the greatest beneficiary.

- 6-26, Region 6

GRASS COVER FOR SHELTERBELT STRIPS

Some of the shelterbelt plantings of 1937 in District I were on extremely loose drift sand. This loose soil continued to shift throughout the spring and early summer, blowing out or covering up "cover crops" which were established, and also uncovering tree roots, so that in some cases a very poor survival resulted.

Cover crops are very difficult to establish on these shifting soils; moisture is deficient and the topsoil is gone. All native grasses should be encouraged and allowed to grow between rows in the latter part of the season.

Perhaps the best of these grasses for this country is the Colorado grass. This grass seldom makes its appearance before August and would not hinder early cultivation. The seed may be scattered any time during the spring and early summer months. If no other cover crop survives, Colorado grass will be there to do the job and only one seeding is required. Besides there will be ample seed for all bird life, as an individual plant often makes several hundred heads of seed.

- A. Schattenberg, Texas

PROJECT PURCHASING GUIDE

A Purchase Guide is being prepared in the Regional Office, copies of which will be distributed to the State Units as soon as completed.

All items commonly purchased on this Project will be listed under various captions showing whether purchase may be made locally, through the Regional Office, from Tps. contract or from the Supply Depot.

Such items as shingletow, lath yarn, ammunition, strychnine, anti-freeze compound, and others which are purchased but once or twice a year will have certain dates specified in the Guide on which requisitions are due from the State Units. This will enable the Regional Office to make consolidated purchases of these items which will reduce the number of bids to be issued and should effect financial savings as well.

- O. K. Bartos, R.O.

: NEBRASKA NOTES :

On Friday, August 27, Mr. Moffet, Mr. Davis and myself showed the slides at the University of Nebraska Experimental Farm, for the 4-H Forestry Clubs of McPherson, Logan and Arthur Counties. Afterwards the members were taken through our North Platte Nursery. Mr. Crozier, County Agent, and club leaders expressed their hearty appreciation.

Then on Saturday, August 28, Mr. Crozier held a meeting in the McPherson County courthouse at Tryon, to present the shelterbelt program to the people of the county. Mr. Crozier and Mr. Ready both talked for the program, and I explained the policy. Mr. Davis and myself ran off the slides. The men were all prominent landowners and without exception signed applications and took some along for their neighbors.

- Lawrence F. Joris

Nebraska simply cannot be outdone by Kansas so we must report that on August 4, Harry S. Harper employed one of our hoeing crews to hoe the weeds out of the tree rows in his 1936 strip, consisting of 13.5 acres, at an expense to him of \$22.40. On August 14, Pat Hickey and John Murray hired the same crew to hoe their 1936 and 1937 strips consisting of a total of 23 acres, at an expense of \$22.40. The above parties are not ACP cooperators and the hoeing was done with the success of the trees foremost in their minds.

Then, too, it must be noted that we don't "charge" our cooperators as much per acre as the Kansans.

- E. Garth Champagne

In spite of the fact that the crops in District No. III in Nebraska are almost entirely wiped out by drought and grasshoppers, we still have a 70-80 percent survival of trees, which have made a splendid growth this year. Some of the cottonwoods have shown a growth of five feet at this time. I believe the survival and growth in this district is due in a large measure to the good cultivation which the trees have received from our cooperators in Box Butte County. All strips are free from weeds, and have been the entire season.

Speaking of rodent control, Floyd Kosmiski, one of our cooperators here, told me last week that when he first put his poison out, he had intended to keep the planting free from dead rabbits by hauling them out and burying them. However, after hauling out 95, he decided that was going to be too much of a job, and that he would just bury them on the strip. This was fine for a time, but he soon decided to just let them lie where they fell, and up-to-date, he estimates the number killed on that one strip to be around 200.

We are making a special drive at this time to supply all the cooperators with new poison, and are asking that they put it on the strips immediately so as to stop the fall damage, which will doubtless start in a short time.

- Sterling C. Neubauer

District IV of the Prairie States Forestry Project opened its office in the Pierce County courthouse August 24. The new District is already anticipating a most successful '38 season. The cooperation and support received from the various county agencies and the business men of the city of Pierce is more than encouraging. The few farmers who have been contacted to date are very enthusiastic about our program and I believe that I can be safe in saying that their attitude toward the program is typical of that of many others within the District.

- Floyd W. Hougland, Jr.

: KANSAS NOTES :

The Kansas Unit hopes to accomplish the topping of the trees in the nurseries by renting a grain binder from a nearby farmer and pulling it behind the John Deere tractors which are used for power. Studies made on this plan to date indicate that it will work satisfactorily for this purpose. With the binder, several rows can be cut at a time and the tops of the trees can be tied into bundles and easily removed from the nursery. It will be given a trial in the field before long.

A preliminary draft of the 1938 Agricultural Conservation Program was reviewed recently. The proposed plan is quite different from the 1937 program. It is expected that a draft which will be practically final will be received by about September 20. The new program may abolish the diversion payment entirely and place increased emphasis on soil conservation by placing a greater premium on soil-building and soil-conserving crops, and less emphasis on practices.

The Kansas Unit has appointed the following men recently to the position of Supervisory Strawboss: Jewell Harrison, Kinsley; Norman C. Brubaker, Kingman; Gaylord Hargadine, Kinsley; Alva Swarner, Coldwater; Bluford Rowland, St. John, and Wayne C. Whitney, Hutchinson. This position has not been filled during the months of May, June and July. Heavy land acquisition programs in each of the districts make it necessary to have assistants to handle remaining cultivation, seed collection and fence construction work.

Mike F. Thomsic, Junior Range Examiner, has been transferred from the Kansas Range Program to Oklahoma. Mr. Thomsic will be assigned to the Elk City District on the Forestation Project. Mr. Thomsic has been an Instructor-Inspector on the Range Program. Reduction of the number of temporary range examiners on the Kansas program makes it possible to release Mr. Thomsic at this time. It is expected that the field examinations will all be completed by the end of September.

New District Offices have been opened at Kingman and at Hutchinson. Mr. R. A. Dellberg has been transferred to Kingman from Pratt, and Mr. Karl Ziegler has been transferred from Coldwater to Hutchinson. Changes were made in the boundaries of the Districts to permit better administration of the work.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lightner, writing to the Kansas Office recently, makes the following statement: "Our 1936 strip looks wonderful. We wouldn't take \$1000 for our trees."

Mrs. Lightner has a farm in southwestern Reno County where the soil is very sandy and which is subject to very severe wind erosion. In 1936 the Forest Service planted a one-half mile shelterbelt on this farm, and in 1937 an additional three-quarters mile of five-rod strip was planted. We have an application from Mrs. Lightner for additional mileage in 1938.

: OKLAHOMA NOTES :

Somehow, Sam Byars' stories in the past have really sounded a bit fishy. No doubt the facial expressions and comments of his listeners impressed Sam with the undeniable fact that his stories were being taken with a grain of salt, for when he raised anchor recently and pulled out for the Gulf of Mexico on a short vacation he said, "I am going to fish for a couple of hours before I leave for the mountains, and may send you some fish."

He had hardly reached the coast when Jack Nelson received a wire that a barrel of fish was being expressed to him. The following morning a barrel containing 60 pounds of fish and a scud of ice was delivered to Mr. Nelson's

apartment. There were kingfish and mackerel, some of which weighed many pounds - the result of a couple of hours' fishing - according to Sam. And Boy, were they good! Looks like we are going to have to be a little more respectful in the future when Sammy tells fish stories.

Howard Carleton, Jr. reports: "John Rus came to the office today and said, 'I used to have a great deal of trouble with soil blowing on my land. I planted trees on the south side of my farm; two strips part way through the middle of the farm and a part of a strip on the west side. I am not having much trouble with blowing now. I am going to ask the Forest Service to complete the unfinished strips this year and then I will have my place completely protected.' Mr. Rus is going to ask his neighbors to cooperate with him in planting the sections surrounding his farm in order to get a large block protected."

: R. O. NOTES :

We are glad to welcome Miss Olive R. Peterson, formerly of the North Dakota Office, to the Regional Office, where she has assumed charge of the Stenographic Section in the Division of Fiscal Control.

The Forest Service has entered a team in both the Commercial and the Banner Bowling Leagues this season. Members of the team in the Commercial League are Roberts, Maynard, Bartos, Bennett, Ihlanfeldt and Lobenstein. Those in the Banner League are Perry, Thomas, Baird, Ray Smith, Matthew and Hurren. It was reported with pride that the bowlers have new shirts of the regulation Forest Service green with the large shield embroidered on the backs. Both teams bowl every Wednesday night, the Commercial League from 7 to 9 and the Banner League from 9 to 11.

(About all that the high-powered Commercial Leaguers expect of the Banner (scrub) team is an ability to not look too disgusted when the ball goes down the gutter. But watch our smoke, brethren! - Ed.)

Miss Olga Novacek, formerly of the Regional Office, and now in the Division of Recreation and Lands, Washington, stopped in the office while on leave, and was promptly put to work in the Division of Fiscal Control, pending Miss Peterson's arrival. We enjoyed having her with us for the two weeks. She is now returning to her work in Washington. (MORAL: If you're not looking for work, don't be making any vacation calls in the Office of Fiscal Control.)

It seems that all summer long two certain members of the Division of Fiscal Control have been consistently beating two of the heavy thinkers of Timber Management at golf. It's no skin off my nose, I am sure, but hearing it rubbed in so much is getting a bit monotonous. This Maiden's Prayer is to the effect that either the TM'ers wallop the tar out of the haughty Financiers just once, or else that snow will fly and put an end to the battle, verbal and otherwise.

